

#### § 1381.5

#### 7 CFR Ch. XIII (1–1–98 Edition)

supporting reasons. Such response shall be received by the Commission within 20 days of petitioner's receipt of the panel's proposed findings, conclusions and decision.

(3) The panel may modify, alter or amend its proposed findings, conclusions and decision in accordance with petitioner's response, as it deems appropriate.

(h) *Final ruling by the Commission.* (1) Unless the panel so notifies the Commission of the need for an extension of time, at its first regularly scheduled meeting following the deadline for the receipt of petitioner's response to the panel's proposed findings, conclusions and decision, the Commission shall make a final ruling upon the petition. The Commission's determination shall be based upon the panel's final or modified proposed findings, conclusions and decision. The Commission shall also consider the petitioner's response to the panel's original proposed findings, conclusion and decision. The record shall also be available for review by the Commission.

(2) The Commission's final ruling shall be served by certified mail upon the petitioner and be filed in the Commission offices, and be made available for public inspection and copying in accordance with the bylaws.

(3) Any commissioner shall (on either the Commissioner's own motion or on

motion of the petitioner) disqualify himself or herself from consideration of the Commission's final ruling on the panel's decision if that commissioner's impartiality might reasonably be questioned.

#### § 1381.5 Judicial appeal; escrow.

(a) As set forth in section 16(c) of the Compact, as approved by 7 U.S.C. 7256, the district courts of the United States, in any district in which a handler is an inhabitant or has his principal place of business, have jurisdiction to review a final ruling of the Commission made pursuant to § 1381.4(h), provided that a complaint is filed within thirty days from the date of the entry of that final ruling.

(b) A petitioner who has been granted the establishment of an escrow account as part of the administrative proceeding and who has timely appealed may request that its payments be placed into escrow pending the appeal. Upon such a request, the Commission shall hold the money in escrow until the date that a timely judicial complaint is filed plus a period of ten days. The Commission may also, for good cause shown, continue to hold the money placed in escrow pending the ultimate resolution of any appeal, or for such other period as the Commission may establish.